FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ETHIOPIA

NORTHERN SECTOR COMMANDER AFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR MENGISTU

LD152016Y Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1730 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] The commander of the northern sector has said that the northern revolutionary force does not only fully support the policy statement made by Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, on the situation in Eritrea, but is ready to translate into action the guideline given by him.

Comrade Brig Gen Merid Negussie was reviewing the position and standpoint of the northern revolutionary force to Ethiopian journalists. He said that the regular and militia forces in the northern war front realize their [word indistinct] for whom and for what they are fighting. The force, he said, is guided by the motto: "Fighting while producing and producing while fighting." He added that in liberated areas the force is participating actively in work and production and in the task of politicizing and organizing the masses.

The commander described that the force had succeeded in liberating many villages from the exploitation and oppression of the separatists and was taking an active part in education and rehabilitation activities.

AMBASSADORS ARRIVE FOR ERITREA SEMINAR

LD151926Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Foreign Ministry today disclosed that eight Ethiopian ambassadors and two charges d'affaires have recently arrived in Addis Ababa from the countries to which they are accredited. They will take part in tomorrow's seminar in the Addis Ababa municipality. The seminar will carefully examine the problem in the Eritrean administrative region.

Those who came to Addis Ababa to attend this historic seminar are Ato Mengiste Desta, Ethiopian ambassador to Kenya; Dr Fitigu Tadesse, Ethiopian ambassador to France; Ato Assefa Wolde, Ethiopian ambassador to Yugoslavia; De Haile-Gabriel Dagne, Ethiopian ambassador to the FRG; Col Getahun Ijigu, Ethiopian ambassador to Sweden; Ato Assefa Legesse, Ethiopian ambassador to Greece; Ato Ayelew Wolde Giorgis, Ethiopian ambassador to Britain; and Ato Kassate Badima, Ethiopian ambassador to Nigeria. Others attending are Dr Mesfin Retta, Ethiopian charge d'affaires in France, and Ato Tibebu Bekele, Ethiopian charge d'affaires in the United States.

OSMAN SALEH SABBE: CUBA PROMISES NOT TO INTERVENE IN ERITREA

LD151712Y London AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 12-18 Jun 78 pp 15-17 LD

[Interview in London with Osman Saleh Sabbe, chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Central Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Popular Liberation Forces [ELF-PLF]; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Could you tell us your reasons for coming to Europe at this time in particular?

[Answer] My presence in Europe is part of our efforts to win public opinion and international support for submitting the Eritrean problem to the UN General Assembly in its capacity as the organization legally responsible for this problem in accordance with its successive resolutions.

My trip has included visits to a number of Arab countries and will cover several East and West European countries. We realize that the West European countries have security and trade interests in the Red Sea. This area has now become the center of conflict between major powers following the Ethiopian military coup d'etat, the emergence of the Eritrean revolution, the current conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia and the hidden problems in Djibouti. With regard to Britain, we have contacted political parties and met with officials and members of Parliament--both Labor and Conservatives--and other organizations. We have also got in touch with the press and humanitarian societies through the Committee for the Support of Eritrea headed by Lord Avebery. We do not expect to achieve everything we desire through these hurried contacts but we believe, as a start, we have achieved preliminary successes in the countries we have visited so far, including Italy and the UN headquarters in Switzerland. We have noticed the media interest in the Eritrean problem and understand from officials with whom we met that important large-scale contacts are taking place between major powers and certain Arab countries and Ethiopia regarding the Eritrean problem with a view to reaching a peaceful solution and preventing foreign armed interference against Eritrea. Probably as a result of these contacts, as well as of other factors, we find that the Cuban forces, despite their presence in some of the Eritrean towns, so far have not taken part in the ground fighting against the Eritrean revolution.

[Question] What is the situation now in Eritrea and what about the current battles there?

[Answer] The fighting has not stopped, particularly around the towns that are still controlled by the Ethiopian forces. So far nothing that can be called a general attack has occurred, despite the bombing that has been going on for a month, as a result of which hundreds of civilians have died. Some 10 sorties are carried out daily by scores of MIG and F-5 planes. There are concentrations along the Eritrean borders in (Hawmarsh) district along (Tajrini) region in southern Eritrea, but these concentrations mainly consist of militia forces whose fighting capabilities do not match those of the Eritrean rebel forces. It is probably for this reason that the Ethiopian government might be inclined to send its forces to Ethiopia and Colonel Mengistu might insist on the participation of the Cuban and other forces in the attack. But it appears that President Castro has decided against his forces participating in the fight against the Eritrean revolution, probably because he realizes the difference between the Eritrean revolution and Ethiopia's other internal problems. It is also probably because of his fear of getting involved in a long drawn-out war. This is in addition to international and Arab pressures to prevent foreign intervention. We have learned through our contacts with some of Ethiopia's friends, and particularly since the visit of Dr George Habash, general secretary of the Popular Front fo the Liberation of Palestine, to Havana, that Castro has assured him that Cuba will not intervene militarily against Eritrea and that it supports a peaceful solution through negotiations. We have also learned from Colonel al-Qadhdhafi that Cuba has promised not to intervene militarily against Eritrea. For our part we held contacts with the Cuban leader and asked to visit Havana in order to explain our viewpoint, since we have longstanding relations with Cuba, which trained some of our young men in guerrilla warfare.

[Question] Can you throw further light on differences in the community inside Eritrea and their influence on determining the Arab identity of Eritrea?

[Answer] The Moslems in Eritrea are linked to the Arabs through religion, not race. Arabic is their official language despite the existence of unwritten local languages. Racially, the Christians are more Arab than the Moslems because they originally came from Yemen.

We leave the question of shaping our Arab relations to independent Eritrea. Our relations with the Arabs are governed by cultural, geographic and economic considerations. At present we are not proposing that Eritrea become a member of the Arab League. We want a secular socialist state in which all citizens will have equal rights.

[Question] It is evident that you have different relations with the Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia.

[Answer] Saudi Arabia has helped the Eritrean People's Liberation Front several times more than it has helped us. Our relations with Riyadh are the same as relations with any other Arab capital. We do not interfere in the domestic affairs of the Arab countries, nor do we allow them to interfere in our affairs. We are sorry and worried about the current differences in the Arab world. We want the Arab countries to reach a minimum of agreement; that is a must in the circumstances where an enemy is occupying some of their territories. No one should ask us to give our views on Arab problems.

LE MONDE Interview

LD1414137 Paris LE MONDE in French 14 Jun 78 p 6 LD

[Philippe Decraene interview in Paris with ELF-PLF Executive Committee Chairman Osman Saleh Sabbe; date not given]

[Text] [Question] Your political opponents claim that your movement is less important than the other two Eritrean fronts....

[Answer] The biggest Eritrean city so far liberated is Agordat. This area has been in the hands of the ELF-PLF fighters since 1 September 1977. Guerrillas from the same movement control the entire Arab region....

[Question] It is announced periodically that the reunification of the nationalist movements is an accomplished fact. What is the present state of affairs?

[Answer] Ahmed Nasser's Eritrean Liberation Front [ELF] has rejected organic union with our movement. But many militants who recognize the Revolutionary Council have joined us on an individual basis. Isaias' Eritrean People's Liberation Front, like Ahmed Nasser's ELF, refuses to unite because they think in Marxist terms. For our part, we consider ideology a secondary matter and the liberation struggle the top priority....

[Question] What are the aims of your visit to France and to various European capitals?

[Answer] We believe that, in view of the audience it enjoys in Africa, France has an important role to play in settling the Eritrean conflict....We want to sensitize European public opinion so that the Eritrean issue can be put on the agenda of the next UN session....For that matter, we note a general growth of awareness, but it is still not enough....In any event, it is a propitious moment for our plan because Europeans are determined to prevent internationalization and, above all, large-scale Cuban intervention in Eritrea.

[Question] How do you feel about the Cuban presence in this area?

[Answer] Cuban Air Force personnel are intervening against our soldiers. All the barracks in the last few big cities still in the hands of the Ethiopian Army have Cuban instructors.

Politically, Havana would like to withdraw from the Eritrean hornets' nest. But if Castro hesitates to take action of this kind it is because he must take into account the views of the Soviets, who urged him into this venture.

[Question] What role do the Soviets play in Eritrea?

[Answer] The Soviets are giving considerable help to the Ethiopian Government in all spheres, not only in the military but in the financial, economic and technical fields.... However, many countries are trying to change the Soviet viewpoint--not only the United States but also countries like Yugoslavia and certain Arab states, such as Libya, Iraq and Syria, for example....

[Question] And on the political front?

[Answer] Moscow is urging the Eritrean Marxists to accept the formula of a federal union with the Ethiopian Marxists. Such a solution would resolve nothing; on the contrary....

[Question] Does your movement have regular contacts with the junta in Addis Ababa?

[Answer] Unlike other movements which maintain such contacts through the Palestinians, we for our part maintain none at all....We are nationalists. We are not Marxists....

[Question] On what basis are you prepared to hold talks with Chairman Mengistu?

[Answer] We will only agree to talks with the Ethiopian junta if the representatives of the three Eritrean liberation fronts are received simultaneously by him in a single delegation.

[Question] You are therefore in favor of continuing hostilities?

[Answer] It is now up to the Africans, France--since many Francophone African states have ties with it--and the Arabs to get together to impose a negotiated solution. There is in fact a real danger of the war spreading, first to Sudan and then to other more distant states, such as Egypt perhaps....

[Question] You mentioned an appeal to the United Nations. Are you not thinking more of appealing to the OAU?

[Answer] From a legal standpoint the Eritrean affair must be examined before the United Nations. In fact, Eritrea became part of Ethiopia in 1962 because, on 2 December 1950, the United Nations adopted Resolution No 390, which advocated the introduction of a federal system joining Eritrea to the Ethiopian empire....Moreover, the OAU is not willing to discuss the Eritrean affair, at least for the time being. It compares the issue to a separatist venture of the same type as the ones in Biafra or Katanga, for example.

[Question] Do all the black African heads of state show the same intransigence toward you?

[Answer] Previously, they all said of the Eritrean question that it was an Ethiopian internal affair. Now some of them admit that it is an African affair. This in itself is a first step in our direction, an encouraging development....

KENYA

SOMALI MINISTER PRAISES PRESIDENT KENYATTA

LD151906Y Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] The Somali minister for information and national guidance, Dr Abdisalam Sheikh Hussein, has hailed President Kenyatta as the father who spearheaded the liberation of Africa. Dr Hussein was speaking at Nairobi airport on his way to Mogadiscio from Kampala. He said every Somali, including President Barre, has respect for Mzee Kenyatta. Answering questions from reporters, Dr Hussein said that the Soviets and Cubans should not be allowed to meddle in African affairs. Dr Hussein has been in Uganda for the last 3 days, where he delivered a message to President Amin from President Barre. He did not disclose the contents of the message.

SOMALIA

MOGADISCIO: WSLF KILLS 506 ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS

LD151212Y Mogadiscio Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] has killed 325 Ethiopian soldiers and wounded many, between Kebri and Gerlogubi. The enemy also lost one military vehicle loaded with weapons, which was destroyed. The freedom fighters also captured five (?RPP-7) antitank guns.

In the south on 12 June, according to DANAB, the Abo killed 99 Abyssinian enemy troops and wounded more than 150. They also captured many AK guns and machineguns in (Yonka Arabto), near the town of (Masno) in the south of Goba province. On the same day the Abo killed 82 enemy troops and wounded more than 30 near Moyale.

UGANDA

AMIN THANKS EGYPTIAN MINISTER FOR TECHNICAL AID

LD151950Y Kampala Domestic Service in English 1630 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Life President Amin has expressed gratitude to President as-Sadat of Egypt, the government and the entire people of the United Arab Republic of Egypt for the technical aid they are giving to Uganda. Al-Haj Amin pointed out that a friend in need is a friend indeed and that is Egypt, because, he added, it was the only country which helps Uganda a great deal despite the hardship we were experiencing during the consecutive Middle East crises. Field Marshal Amin pointed out that the brotherly people of Egypt do not only assist the people of Uganda in the time of peace but also in the time of dilemma. Dr Amin said the Egyptian experts engaged in various projects in Uganda are doing an excellent job and that the government of the Republic of Uganda attaches great importance to the work they are doing. The field marshal therefore assured [Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs] Dr Ghali that he will never entertain any imperialistic, malicious propaganda waged on the United Arab Republic of Egypt, especially from Europe. Egyptian foreign policy in relation to the outside world is respected.

Al-Haj Amin stressed that if there is any misunderstanding among Arab states, an immediate solution for mutual understanding should be reached to insure [word indistinct] reconciliation among them for the well-being of the people of Egypt and the Arab world and the united strong Africa at large.

CAMEROON

PRESIDENT AHIDJO CONDEMNS FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN AFRICA

PA142335Y Paris AFP in French 1311 GMT 14 Jun 78 PA

[Text] Yaounde, 14 Jun (AFP)--President Ahamdou Ahidjo stated on Wednesday that Cameroon condemns the foreign interventions in Africa, which, in reality, seek to destabilize the African states in order to create a situation favorable to hegemonic struggle.

Addressing the National Assembly meeting in Yaounde, in session to discuss budgetary matters, the chief of state of Cameroon added that "the destabilization of our continent would reduce to nothing the efforts to achieve the economic, social and cultural development of our countries, which are still largely deprived and which legitimately aspire for the benefits of modern science and technology."

"Africa must remain a zone of peace," the president added, "and to this end, the African states must scrupulously observe the principles of noninterference and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states, as well as the right of each people to freely determine their political and economic options."

The chief of state said that he will maintain this position during the OAU summit meeting to be held within a few days in Khartoum, where, he said, "We will reaffirm more than ever our support for political settlement of disputes, the principles of nonalinement and the solution of African problems by Africans themselves."

After noting that his country has continuously supported UN efforts to promote peace, particularly in Africa and in the Middle East, the president added that he has always supported UN actions designed to achieve complete and controlled disarmament.

Regarding "the unrestrained race for the most sophisticated weapons" and the "disturbing trade in weapons, with the principal buyers being developing countries," the chief of state of Cameroon expressed the hope for a "positive result" from "the constructive propositions made during the UN disarmament talks which have just ended."

"It is more exalting," he concluded, "to engage in a healthy competition against poverty, ignorance and disease than in a race toward the certain annihilation of all humanity."

ZAIRE

AZAP WELCOMES BRUSSELS PLAN FOR ZAIRIAN ECONOMY

LD151550Y Kinshasa AZAP in French 0718 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] Kinshasa--What we have seen at the Brussels conference is an expression of the esteem in which our country is held by many nations, and of their solidarity with it. Countries which have never been sparing of support for Zaire have once again responded favorably to its appeal; if others have decided to postpone the announcement of their participation, it is only because they are writing for additional information. There is no question of their having any reservations about the Mobutu plan. The foundations of this international cooperation are already laid. With due respect to its detractors, the countries taking part in the Brussels conference on Zaire have had due regard in their deliberations for our country's sovereignty. Far from denying our freedom and independence, their recommendations open up new prospects for the healthier management of public finances, and a new takeoff for the Zairian economy.

They are totally consistent with our purposes, which are clear. That is why there was such close agreement in deciding on priorities in the allocation of the credits.

The countries involved in the Mobutu plan will also consider additional measures--supplies of medicines, spare parts and fuel, and assistance in revising the exploitation of raw materials. To give some details, West Germany will give DM83 million, plus additional aid of food and medical supplies. Canada will give 7 million Canadian dollars, and the AID will give $14 million. Other organizations, such as the EEC, have also pledged substantial aid under this plan.

While feeling profound satisfaction over this support from abroad, the Zairian people remain aware that it is they who will supply the essential part of Zaire's development effort. Far from awaiting manna from heaven, they are resolved to struggle with renewed vigor against the effects of the international situation.

LAST FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION TROOPS LEAVE ZAIRE

TA151926Y Paris AFP in English 1915 GMT 15 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Kinshasa, June 15 (AFP)--The last batch of French Foreign Legion troops sent to restore order in Zaire's Shaba Province left the trouble-hit area for Corsica today. The 250 legionnaires flew off to join their comrades who preceded them on June 6.

They were to be replaced by a multi-national African force made up of more than 2,600 men. According to the Zairese news agency AZAP, the deployment of this force with contingents from Morocco (the largest one), Senegal, Gabon, the Ivory Coast, the Central African Empire and Egypt, is far from complete.

The Moroccan contingent, with more than 1,500 men, was in full strength but still had not taken up its position today. Senegalese, Ivorian, Gabonese and Togolese contingents have also arrived in the provincial capital of Shaba, Lubumbashi, but there are no details on their size or assignments.

Due to political and material constraints, the force was not expected to become operational before a month.

Meanwhile, Zairese authorities have taken a series of measures to stimulate economic activities in Shaba. In the mining town of Kolwezi, a "rehabilitation committee" has been set up to assess the population's needs and to distribute food and medicine.

ANGOLA

UNITA: ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT BEGINS 'MAJOR OFFENSIVE'

TA161017Y Paris AFP in English 1007 GMT 16 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Paris, June 16 (AFP)--Angolan Government forces backed by 6,000 Cubans have started an offensive against guerrillas in four areas of the country's central region, an Angolan opposition group said here today. The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) said the operations started on June 4, and followed a March-April offensive by Luanda which UNITA said it broke up. UNITA said that in "126 engagements" between March 20 and May 10 this year it killed "527 enemies, including 13 officers and four Cubans." It put its own losses at 39 men.

CUBAN FOREIGN TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVES

LD151926Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] A Cuban delegation led by Ricardo Cabrisas, the vice foreign trade minister, arrived in Angola this morning for a working visit. The delegation was met at the airport by Roberto Almeida, Angolan foreign trade minister. The members of the delegation will discuss problems of international trade.

Almeida Views Relations

FL151701Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 15 Jun 78 FL

[Text] Luanda--Angolan Foreign Trade Minister Roberto de Almeida hailed Cuban cooperation in the field for which he is responsible and called for an increase in trade ties between the two countries. Almeida was interviewed by PRENSA LATINA on the eve of Cuban Vice Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz' visit to that country which begins today. He stated that the People's Republic of Angola is interested in increasing trade ties with socialist countries and that for this end they are working for better planning of their needs. The head of foreign trade, Almeida, stressed the importance Angola places on trade with the socialist countries, which he labeled natural allies at all times.

The Angolan foreign trade minister made positive statements on cooperation provided by Cuba in counseling in the aforementioned sector. He said that the contributions provided by various Cuban officials who have worked hard in training foreign trade cadres has been very significant. Almeida stated that trade relations between Cuba and Angola, which began just 2 years ago, have increased and show good results. Last year saw an 80-percent growth in relation to the level reached in 1976, the first year of trade between the two countries.

SPANISH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION LEAVES ANGOLA

LD151914Y Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] The Spanish delegation led by Senator Mariano Aguilar Navarro, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Spanish Parliament, left Luanda this morning for home. The delegation was seen off at the airport by Olga Lima, director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry.

During his 24-hour stay in Luanda, Senator Aguilar Navarro was received by Paulo Jorge, Angola's foreign minister, and by Roberto Almeida, the foreign trade minister.

MOZAMBIQUE

MUGABE REJECTS PROPOSAL TO MEET WITH SMITH REGIME

LD151949Y Maputo Voice of Zimbabwe in English to Rhodesia 1800 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] A Patriotic Front delegation led by ZANU's president, Comrade Robert Mugabe met British-American envoys John Graham and Stephen Low here today. During the meeting, the British and American envoys proposed direct talks between the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front and the terrorists and traitors Smith, Sithole, Muzorewa and Chirau in Salisbury.

The Patriotic Front delegation, which included ZANU's vice president, Comrade Simon Muzenda; the chief of defanse, Comrade (Saramagama) Tongogara; and the secretary for women's affairs, Comrade [name indistinct], rejected the idea in toto. They [words indistinct] the Patriotic Front's stand that any discussions whatsoever must be between the British Government, as the colonial power, and the Patriotic Front, the sole and authentic representative of the people of Zimbabwe.

Speaking to the Voice of Zimbabwe soon after the meeting, Comrade Mugabe said the liberation movement was prepared to attend a constitutional conference to discuss the independence constitution. He also reiterated that the Smith-Sithole-Muzorewa-Chirau regime must be [word indistinct] or overthrown. The ZANU president said there was, therefore, no agreement at this afternoon's meeting.

MACHEL URGES CITIZENS TO HELP WITH RICE HARVEST

LD142304Y Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Text] President Samora Machel said yesterday that by the end of this week district administrative structures of Gaza Province must mobilize 35,000 people to round off the rice harvet in the Limpopo Valley over a 10-day period. The head of state was speaking at a mass rally yesterday at the 1 May Village Commune in Limpopo District. Over 10,000 people attended. In his speech at the rally, the president of the republic spoke of Gaza Province's potential for producing various food products, such as rice and cattle, not just for internal consumption, but also for export. These considerations, he said, led party and government leaders to consider this province the granary of the nation. President Samora Machel also spoke of the importance of proper work planning, saying that some mistakes had been made in the organization of the rice harvest in the Limpopo Valley.

The FRELIMO leader spoke of people who refused to take part in the rice harvest and who said that they would not be paid. He reminded those present that their participation in this task would contribute to improving the living standards of all the people. In the People's Republic of Mozambique, a republic washed in blood, there is no place for a lazy person, President Samora Machel concluded.

RHODESIA

SMITH ALLEGES BRITAIN, U.S. RENEGED ON 1976 AGREEMENT

LD161000Y London BBC Domestic Television Service in English 2220 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD

[John Humphreys 15 June interview in Salisbury with Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith, carried on "Tonight" program presented by Denis Touhy--recorded]

[Text] [Touhy] This afternoon two diplomats, John Graham of Britain and Stephen Low of America, arrived in Mozambique. They are there to try to win support for an all-party Rhodesian conference. They just left Salisbury after similar discussions with the leaders of Rhodesia's interim government. It was on 3 March that Ian Smith, Rhodesia's prime minister, signed an agreement with the three moderate nationalist leaders, Bishop Muzorewa, the reverend Sithole and Chief Chirau. The four agreed that on 31 December this year an elected black government would emerge to rule an independent Zimbabwe. The two nationlist opponents of the agreement, Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe, immediately dismissed it as a sellout and have ever since withstood all blandishments from Salisbury. The reaction from most Western governments was hesitant, many preferring to wait and see if the black signatories could deliver the goods. The test came on 2 May, when the interim government asked the guerrillas of Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe to lay down their arms. They did not. Since then the war has in fact intensified. At least 50 civilians--some reports say nearly 100--were killed on 14 May when security forces surprised guerrillas addressing a village meeting. Emissaries of the black leaders in the interim government have been murdered and deaths are now running at 100 a week. The tide seems to have turned irreversibly against the interim government, and disillusionment with the agreement is growing in the West. It was against this background John Humphreys spoke to Ian Smith in Salisbury this afternoon. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Smith, Messrs Graham and Low left Salisbury today, having come to try and resuscitate the all-party talks, apparently without any success. What must they do to bring you and your other black colleagues in the Executive Council back to the table along with Mugabe and Nkomo and everybody else?

[Answer] With due respect to them, Mr Graham and Mr Low did not seem to have anything very positive to offer. It looked as though they were almost fishing to try to get something out of us. Well, now we are in a firm position. We have an agreement that has been signed and we are busy implementing this. This is the first time really in the history of the dispute that we have got black and white Rhodesians to agree and they are going forward. So obviously we are reluctant to do anything which is going to destroy the progress which we have made. And the talks to get to the end, if there was a reasonable ... positive suggestion from the British and Americans, I think we would be amenable to this. But we have not got that.

[Question] What kind of suggestion? What are you looking for? What do they have to say to get you and your colleagues in the Executive Council round the table with Nkomo and Mugabe and the rest of them?

[Answer] Well, I think the best way round is to say that we have made an offer inviting Messrs Nkomo and Mugabe to come in and participate in our agreement on an equal footing with the rest of us. And I think this is a very generous offer when you consider that we are the people who are in control here. We are going forward. We could very easily close the doors and keep it to ourselves. But we are prepared to invite them in on exactly the same conditions as the rest of us are participating. What more? We are a going concern. They can come into a going concern, capitalize on the benefits of what we have already done and then participate as equal partners. We do not believe there is a better offer.

[Question] But of course what Mr Nkomo and Mr Mugabe are saying, the reason why they will not come back, is because they say nothing basically has changed here. Rhodesia is still under your control, the control of your party, you are still the prime minister, you control the security forces, the police and all the rest of it.

[Answer] With due respect, this is an incorrect assessment. We have a government today where there are more black people than white people. The all-powerful body is the Executive Council and as you are aware, there are three blacks and one white. The security forces are not my security forces; they are the security forces of the government in this country. In fact I can tell you, only this morning, before coming here, I have been in a long meeting with the whole of the national (?jok) as it is called, the security chiefs, speaking to the Executive Council, briefing them, with Bishop Muzorewa in the chair, not myself. So it is illogical, in fact it is a distortion of the truth, to suggest that I still have the security forces under my control. Apart from the position which I have outlined in the Executive Council, there are ministers in all of the security portfolios--black and white--working together in harness. The black minister only yesterday, giving decorations for example, to the air force, visiting the security forces wherever they operate--the black minister as well as the white one.

[Question] And yet some would say that when a black minister steps out of line, as Mr Hove apparently did, he is fired despite the objections, in that case, of Bishop Muzorewa and his UANC, and they would suggest that that exposes the settlement.

[Answer] That is not correct. I want to show you that the Executive Council has never made any decision not in keeping with the agreement. Now I am reluctant to get into the intimate details of this, but I can say this to you in absolute honesty: that we have never made a decision not in keeping with the agreement. And as you know the agreement says that decisions have got to be unanimous. So bear that in mind. I believe that the public have got hold of the wrong end of the stock completely over this issue. The original decision was one that had unanimous support.

[Question] Mr Smith, you talk about the success of the agreement so far, when in fact what we are seeing is the war hotting up and you have always said that the war, the ending of the war, is absolutely crucial to the success of this agreement, this settlement.

[Answer] Let me concede that we are not succeeding as well as we had hoped. I will go along with that, sure. And I am critical of our effort so far for a cease-fire. This is another thing which we discuss constantly. We have got to improve our performance. I admit it.

[Question] How can you do that?

[Answer] Oh, it is a complicated business and it is a very delicate one, something I would not be prepared to discuss with anybody in public. Obviously we are talking about security and the lives of people and tactics. All I can say to you is we are determined to improve on it and this is our major concern. But we do not deny that the most important part of what we are now doing is to bring about a cease-fire.

[Question] You do not regret, do you, setting 31 December as a deadline?

[Answer] No, it has been set and we must try to comply with it. Well, let me make it clear, we have got problems and in reply generally to what you have been saying, most of our problems, you know, have been caused by the British Government. If I may make this point to you; now I will not go back over the last 2 decades when on many occasions we had a certain amount of what one might call doubledealing from the British Government.

Let me just go back to September 1976, when we accepted the Anglo-American agreement. That was the first time we accepted majority rule, a traumatic decision for Rhodesia. We accepted it in return for an undertaking from the British and the Americans who then joined in, that we would have sanctions removed, terrorism would cease and a massive sum of money would be made available for development in Rhodesia and to guarantee things like pensions and compensations for people. That was the bargain that we struck. And it was a British plan, remember, not our plan. Well now, we went to Geneva to implement this plan and the British reneged on it. Now today we have got together ourselves and produced a plan similar to that Anglo-American plan and the British are still denying us their part of the bargain. This is the crux of the whole matter. This one act from the British Government would solve our problems. It would bring terrorism to an end.

[Question] Which one act?

[Answer] The act on the part of the British Government complying with their part to the Anglo-American agreement which they sold to me in Pretoria in September 1976. That is all they have to do. That would solve our problems. And as you see, people have been killed in Rhodesia at the rate of about 20 a day. Innocent people, sometimes women and children. And this one act on the part of the British Government would solve that. You know I do not think that the average man in the street in Britain understands this; or an American, for that matter. Because since that agreement the Americans have been implicated. Remember, we had meetings here with Dr Owen and Mr Vance and Mr Young. At the moment there is a team that you referred to earlier on who are here, a British delegate and an American delegate. So they are both in this together and they are both guilty of reneging on the agreement which they made with me in September 1976 and this is the main reason for our trouble today.

[Question] So you are in effect blaming the British and American governments for the continuing war and the continuing deaths in Rhodesia?

[Answer] Well, I am giving you a fact which is written in the agreement for you and everybody to see. They told me that if we accepted majority rule, they would remove sanctions and they will bring terrorism to an end. That is written in an agreement. I am not only telling you, it is a proven fact of life.

[Question] Can you succeed without the British and American approval now?

[Answer] It is going to be very difficult, very complicated. I would not say impossible. Obviously very difficult. And Rhodesia is going to go on through this traumatic period, the agony of having innocent people being killed every day, the war going on and our economy suffering to the prejudice mainly of black Rhodesians. Sanctions hit them far more than the white Rhodesians. The millions of dollars which are being lost through sanctions could be used to provide more facilities for these people and they need them--things like better schools and hospitals and homes and a better economic standard. The British and the American governments today are denying us these benefits. They could set it right at the stroke of a pen.

[Question] What you are making is essentially an appeal to Britain and America?

[Answer] I have often made appeals to them. All I am doing now is taking advantage of the opportunity which you have given me of reminding the British public and the American public of what their governments are doing to us because I do not think they are aware of it.

[Question] Mr Smith, thank you very much.

[Answer] Thank you. [end recording]

[Touhy] Ian Smith talking to John Humphreys. Well, late tonight the Foreign Office rebutted the main part of Mr Smith's charges against Britain. A spokesman said the 1976 Kissinger proposals were discussed in Geneva, but did not produce an agreement with all the parties. Therefore, there was not a return to legality nor, as a result, were sanctions lifted.

SOUTH AFRICA

TEXT OF VORSTER ANNOUNCEMENT ON DISBANDMENT OF INFORMATION DEPARTMENT

LD151232Y Pretoria DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION in English 1000 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD

[Text] House of Assembly--The prime minister, Mr Vorster, announced today that the Department of Information was to be disbanded and that the secretary for information, Dr Eschel Rhoodie, would retire at the end of this month. The following is the text of Mr Vorster's statement.

"With reference to the instruction to the Public Service Commission in respect of the report of the Select Committee on Public Accounts, I wish to inform the House that:

"1. The Public Service Commission has now completed its investigation of the affairs of the Department of Information, and,

"2. The cabinet has accepted the following recommendations of the commission, that:

"A. The Department of Information be abolished and in its place a Bureau for National and International Communication be created.

"B. The post of secretary for information be abolished and in its place a post of director general for national and international communication, on a grade just lower than that of a departmental head, be created. As a result of the abolition of the post, the secretary for information, Dr E.M. Rhoodie, has requested that he be retired from the public service with effect from July 1, 1978. This request was granted by the commission.

"C. The bureau not be granted departmental status but that its head have accounting responsibility for the organisation,

"D. All the activities of the Department of Information, with the exception of its secret actions, be transferred to the new bureau, and

"E. The personnel requirements of the bureau be investigated in detail after it has been given the opportunity to make full use of its existing establishment, and a clear determination of its future needs can be made.

"3. The cabinet further decided that a proper evaluation be made of the confidential projects so that it can be decided which of the projects must be continued and to which departments such projects must be channelled.

"4. It is not easy to find a knowledgeable person to make such an evalutation, but I am pleased to say that General G. J. van den Bergh, who retires at the end of June as secretary for security information, has agreed to make himself available for this purpose.

"I would add that General van den Bergh could and wished to retire three years ago, but stayed on by special request and was appointed on contract.

"5. Should it appear from the evaulation investigation that the former secretary for information's knowledge of these matters is indispensable for the purposes of proper evaluation, he may, if he is available, be taken into service on a temporary basis for the duration of this.

"It should be noted that the heads of that department who were involved in these activities have all left the service--Mr L.E.S. de Villiers, Dr D.O. Rhoodie, and Dr E.M. Rhoodie.

"It may be necessary, to enable a proper evaluation, that Dr Eschel Rhoodie's services be used on a temporary basis.

"6. The capable and well-equipped person to whom I referred in my previous statement (Mr Vorster said on May 8 that a person would be appointed to investigate fully all alleged irregularities about the misuse of funds) is Mr L. Reynders, a former member of the auditor-general's staff and presently on the personnel of the Bureau for State Secruity. He will be added to General van den Bergh's personnel. His investigation is not yet complete but to date he has found no contravention which would require legal proceedings against any person.

"I did not give the person's name at the time because I wanted to give him a bit of rest at night. But his name was given to the opposition and it is not a question of my having concealed anything.

"7. Meanwhile, and until the post of director-general has been filled on a permanent basis, Mr A. van W. Schoeman will be seconded to serve in the position of director-general."

"Asked by the leader of the opposition, Mr Colin Eglin, under which department the new bureau would fall, Mr Vorster said: "The ministerial home of the new bureau will remain where it is at the moment."

ZAMBIA

PRESIDENT KAUNDA ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL CHANGES

LD161226Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/CA

[Text] President Kaunda has appointed Prime Minister Mr Mainza Chona as party secretary general, replacing Mr Grey Zulu, who becomes chairman of the Defense and Security Subcommittee of the Central Committee. Announcing the changes at a press conference held at Mulungushi Hall, Dr Kaunda has also appointed Lusaka Province member of the Central Committee, Mr Daniel Lisulo, as the new prime minister. All changes announced in the unprecedented reshuffle will become effective from 1800 tomorrow. Mr Lisulo's place has been taken over by member of the Central Committee Mr Fwanyanga Mulikita, member of the Central Committee for Eastern Province. Mr Mungoni Liso comes to Lusaka as vice chairman of the Social and Cultural Subcommittee of the Central Committee.

Minister of State for Transport, Power and Communications Mr Joshua Mumpanshya takes over Mr Liso's place as new member of the Central Committee for the Eastern Province. The president also appointed Mr Paul Lusaka, former minister of power, transport and communications, as minister of health, while Gen Kingsley Chinkuli takes over as minister of power, transport and communication. Mr James Mapona, former minister of commerce and foreign trade, becomes minister of mines, while Mr Sylvester Tembo, former minister of Western Province, takes over as minister of commerce and foreign trade.

Other changes involve the appointment of Mr (Musayama Mwila) as minister of Western Province, Mr Mark Tambatamba as minister for Central Province, Dr Henry Matipa as minister of Luapula Province, Mr (Clement Mwanashiku) as minister for Southern Province and Mr Roger Sakuhuka as minister for Northern Province. Secretary to the Cabinet Mr Sundie Kazunga goes to State House as special assistant, administration. Deputy Secretary to the Cabinet Mr Evans Williams takes over from Mr Kazunga as secretary to the cabinet, while Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance Mr Francis Walusiku becomes deputy secretary to the cabinet.

Dr Kaunda has also made several diplomatic service appointments. Minister for Northern Province Mr Matiya Ngalande, who has been unwell since he was involved in a road accident, becomes an ambassador designate. Minister for Southern Province Mr Willie MWondela goes to China as ambassador, while Chairman of the Water Board of Zambia Mr (Gwynford Zulu) also joins the foreign service, with his country of accreditation to be announced later. Dr Kaunda also brought into government former Investigator General Mr Justice Chomba, who takes over from Mr Lisulo as minister of legal affairs and attorney general. The minister of state in charge of the national commission for development planning, Mr Joshua Lumina, becomes a full cabinet minister and is carrying the same responsibilities of the commission. The president also appointed two new ministers of state. Former Minister of Commerce Dr Mutumba Bull comes back into government as minister of state for information, broadcasting and tourism, while Member of Parliament for Feira Mr Felix Luputa becomes minister of state in the Ministry of Lands and Agriculture. Dr Kaunda has also reorganized the administration systems at State House and the cabinet office.

In a major shakeup of the police force, aimed at reorganizing the force in view of the rising crime wave, President Kaunda moved Inspector General of Police Mr Fabiano Chela to the Water Board of Zambia as chairman, while the Copperbelt police chief, Mr Crispin Katukula, takes over as inspector general. The commissioner of police, Mr Elias Katambi, goes to Cairo, Egypt, as counselor to take over from Mr (Michael Mateka), who moved to Angola in the same capacity. The deputy commissioner of police, Mr Jeffrey Mlinalulu, becomes commissioner of police, succeeding Mr Katambi. The police setup will have four assistant commissioners who will be responsible for four wings of the force.

Meanwhile, the president said that he was behind in executing some of his national responsibilities because the burden for him has been to heavy to bear. He said for the past 6 to 8 months he has been giving serious thought to the idea of reorganizing the structure of power in the party and government in order for him to play an effective role as a general supervisor of the party, government and state function. Dr Kaunda made these remarks when he announced top-level changes in the party, government, civil service and the police at a special press conference held at Mulungushi Hall.

ZAPU: 980 'REBEL TROOPS' KILLED IN 3 MONTHS

LD151105Y Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 15 Jun 78 LD/CA

[Text] About 980 rebel troops were killed and 1,049 others wounded by freedom fighters inside Rhodesia between March and May this year. This is contained in a recent publication of the ZAPU wing of the Patriotic Front, ZIPA [Zimbabwe People's Army] COMBAT DIARY. The publication also says ZIPA captured large quantities of assorted weapons and documents, downed eight rebel aircraft and sank one rebel patrol speedboat.

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